

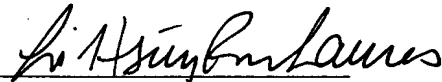
REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending. Claim 1 has been amended to further characterize the subject for whom endotoxin exposure is being diagnosed. Thus, the rejection of claims 1-4 for double patenting over related U.S. Patent No. 5,891,618 may properly be withdrawn.

If an interview would expedite allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the number below.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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